

## Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center

1069 Thunderbolt Drive  
Walterboro, South Carolina 29488

**Grades** 10–12 Career Center

**Enrollment** 695 Students

**Director** Bob McKinnon 843-538-5538

**Board Chair** Michael Crosby 843-549-5715

**Superintendent**  
Charles W. Gale Jr. 843-549-5611

# THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2006 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

### ABSOLUTE RATING

GOOD

#### Absolute Ratings of Career Centers

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	Unsatisfactory
29	8	1	0	0

### IMPROVEMENT RATING

GOOD

### ADEQUATE YEARLY PROGRESS

YES

Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the state rating for career and technology centers must be Excellent, Good, Above Average, Average or Below Average.

### SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

**PERFORMANCE TRENDS OVER 4-YEAR PERIOD**

	<b>Absolute Rating</b>	<b>Improvement Rating</b>	<b>Adequate Yearly Progress</b>
<b>2003</b>	Good	Good	Yes
<b>2004</b>	Excellent	Good	Yes
<b>2005</b>	Average	Unsatisfactory	Yes
<b>2006</b>	Good	Good	Yes

**DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS**

- Excellent – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Unsatisfactory – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

**PERFORMANCE BY STUDENT GROUPS**

	<b>Mastering Core Competencies</b>			<b>Receiving Diplomas</b>			<b>Place in Field</b>		
	<b>This Center</b>		<b>State Center Average%</b>	<b>This Center</b>		<b>State Center Average%</b>	<b>This Center</b>		<b>State Center Average%</b>
	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>		<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	
<b>All Students</b>	690	75.9%	82.9%	153	86.9%	92.6%	224	96.0%	97.5%
<b>Students with disabilities on diploma track</b>	0	N/A	71.9%	0	N/A	70.2%	2	I/S	97.3%
<b>Gender</b>									
Male	381	71.1%	79.4%	77	83.1%	91.3%	94	99.0%	98.5%
Female	309	81.9%	87.1%	76	90.8%	93.9%	121	93.8%	96.4%
<b>Racial/Ethnic Group</b>									
White	297	80.8%	87.9%	55	100.0%	95.5%	91	97.9%	98.5%
African American	370	71.9%	76.5%	94	79.8%	88.7%	120	96.0%	95.6%
Asian/Pacific Islander	8	87.5%	88.0%	2	I/S	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hispanic	7	85.7%	81.9%	0	0.0%	88.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A
American Indian/Alaskan	3	I/S	86.5%	1	I/S	88.9%	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Migrant Status</b>									
Migrant									
Non-migrant									
<b>English Proficiency</b>									
Limited English Proficient	7	57.1%	81.6%	0	N/A	90.8%	N/A	N/A	N/A
Non-Limited English Proficient	683	76.1%	82.9%	153	86.9%	92.6%	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Socio-Economic Status</b>									
Subsidized meals	373	71.6%	78.2%	79	78.5%	89.2%	92	92.9%	95.1%
Full-pay meals	317	81.1%	87.5%	74	95.9%	95.1%	123	98.4%	98.2%

n = number of students on which percentage is calculated

**DEFINITIONS OF PERFORMANCE RATING TERMS**

- Mastering Core Competencies–The percentage of students enrolled in career and technology courses at the center who earn a 2.0 or above on the final course grade.
- Graduation Rate–The percentage of 12th grade career and technology students who graduate in the spring.
- Placement Rate–The percentage of career and technology completers available for placement over a 3-year period who are actually placed in postsecondary instruction, military services, or employment.

**Abbreviations for Missing Data**

N/A Not Applicable    N/AV Not Available    N/C Not Collected    N/R Not Reported    I/S Insufficient Sample

**SCHOOL PROFILE**

	<b>Our School</b>	<b>Change from Last Year</b>	<b>Median Career Center</b>
<b>Students (n= 695)</b>			
With disabilities other than speech	0.0%	No change	2.2%
Career/technology students in co-curricular organizations	21.9%	Down from 22.2%	18.3%
Enrollment in career/technology center courses	695	Up from 670	650
Students participating in worked-based experiences	10.4%	Down from 12.4%	33.7%
<b>Teachers (n= 15)</b>			
Teachers with advanced degrees	26.7%	Up from 13.3%	25.5%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV		N/AV
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	N/A	N/A	N/A
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	13.3%	Down from 20.0%	17.5%
Teachers returning from previous year	90.8%	Up from 87.8%	90.9%
Teacher attendance rate	95.6%	Up from 95.0%	95.5%
Average teacher salary	\$40,101	Up 7.1%	\$44,019
Prof. development days/teacher	16.7 days	Up from 14.5 days	13.2 days
<b>School</b>			
Director's years at Center	4.0	Up from 3.0	4.0
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$2,131	Down 10.0%	\$2,769
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	60.8%	Down from 63.3%	52.3%
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	74.3%		65.0%
Parents attending conferences	71.7%	Down from 86.6%	85.3%
SACS accreditation	Yes	No change	Yes

\* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

	<b>Our District</b>	<b>State</b>
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	11.9%	6.2%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	11.7%	10.2%

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**REPORT OF DIRECTOR AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL**

Students need to take advantage of all the opportunities that are available to them in high school. Today's careers demand that students prepare by using their minds and their hands to find success in the technology generation. Whether a student is going to a two or four-year College, the military, or directly into the workplace after graduation, the opportunities available at Thunderbolt Career & Technology Center will be beneficial. TCTC is fully accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

We believe that students need strong academic and technical courses before graduation from high school. Of the 24 units needed for a high school diploma, at least 4 may be electives focused on a specific career cluster area of interest. This will earn the students a Completer Certificate and give them advanced skill preparation for their future careers while still in high school. In 2006 more than 98% of our program completers were enrolled in a 2 or 4-year college, serving in the military, or employed when surveyed 10 months after graduation from high school.

All Career & Technology programs have a student organization for students to compete and participate in leadership development and community service projects. Each year students are provided the opportunity to compete in their skill area in district, state, and national events from our Center. In 2006, our Culinary Arts Team placed 1st in the Pro-Start State Championship and 3rd in the Nation, and several of our DECA and HOSA students competed in national competition.

Career and Technology Education is an important part of the total educational process for all students. Students need to be given opportunities to make connections between what they are learning in school and how they will apply it in the future. The SC Chamber of Commerce surveyed South Carolina's workplace and stated in Skills Work 2000 that "education is the key to a good job, but only skills unlock the door to success."

Academic and technical coursework needs to be integrated so that students see connections and reach their highest potential.

Join us at Thunderbolt Career and Technology Center where our students and instructors are Focused on the Future and Building Careers for Success.

Bob McKinnon, Director

Danny Leshowitz, School Improvement Chairman

**EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS, STUDENTS, AND PARENTS**

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	14	109	58
Percent satisfied with learning environment	92.9%	84.4%	82.5%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	87.9%	80.7%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	71.4%	84.1%	76.8%

\*Only eleventh grade students and their parents were included.